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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

December 18, 2003

Applicants: Andreas Hajek et al.

For : Moulding Composition For The Production Of
Sanitary-Ware Components

Serial No.: 09/664 241

Group: 1713

Filed : Sept. 18, 2000

Examiner: Egwim

Confirmation No. 4110

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) ~~Moulding~~ Sanitary-ware moulding composition ~~for the production of a sanitary-ware component~~, comprising a methyl-methacrylate-based syrup and from 50 to 85% by weight, expressed in terms of the moulding composition, of an inorganic filler ~~characterized in that the moulding composition furthermore comprises and further comprising~~ elastomer particles or elastomer particle aggregates having a particle size smaller than 100 μ m in an amount in the range of 5% by weight to less than 20% by weight, expressed in terms of the mass of the syrup, effective to impart to a sanitary-ware component molded from said moulding composition improved resistance to scratching as compared to a sanitary-ware component molded from a similar moulding composition devoid of said elastomer particles or elastomer particle aggregates.

2. (original) Moulding composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the syrup comprises PMMA with a molecular weight (M_w) of from 50,000 to 250,000 in an amount of up to 20 % by weight, expressed in terms of the mass of the syrup.